

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. **(Previously presented)** A method of ablating the heart comprising the steps of:
 - a. introducing a linear RF ablation catheter into the pericardial space surrounding the heart by piercing the pericardium;
 - b. fixing the tip of a linear RF catheter by inserting a barbed anchor into the heart; said linear RF catheter having an elongate linear flexible body having a single line of linearly oriented RF ablation electrodes , each of said electrodes movable to a location on the epicardial surface of the heart within the intact pericardium;
 - c. flexing the catheter body into conformity with the heart surface by manipulating the catheter from said anchor; and
 - d. applying RF energy to the RF electrodes of said catheter.
2. **(New)** An ablation catheter for use in the pericardial space for performing the maze procedure on cardiac tissue. The device comprising:
 - a. an elongate catheter body having a proximal end and a distal end, said distal end being formed of a plurality of mechanical lengths formed from hypo tube and having an interior lumen;
 - b. an elongate stylet insertable in the lumen of said ablation catheter and extending from the proximal end to the distal end to stiffen the catheter during placement and manipulation;
 - c. a proximal electrical connection coupled to said hypo tube for providing radio-frequency energy to the hypo tube from a remote RF generator source; and
 - d. a distal anchor coupled to said most distal link of said ablation catheter for anchoring the distal tip of the catheter at a location on cardiac surface.
3. **(New)** The device of claim 1 further including additional anchor barbs located along the archuate length of the distal section of the ablation catheter.
4. **(New)** The device of claim 1 further including a stylet positioned halfway down the length of the ablation catheter.
5. **(New)** The device of claim 1 wherein the hypo tube is manufactured from stainless steel.

6. **(New)** The device of claim 1 wherein said catheter body is fully insulated and multiple electrode locations are excised from the insulation along a single side of the distal tip of the catheter.